

Kingdom Rising

“Hostile Ministry”

GETTING STARTED

ICE BREAKER: What is your go-to pain remedy?

KEY THOUGHT: ***God’s incoming Kingdom stirs up persecution***

GETTING THE POINT

Read Mark 6:12-16

1. Describe the disciples’ ministry in terms of “words” and “works.” Which is priority?
2. What is true and what is off-base about the things people are saying about Jesus?

Read Mark 6:17-29

3. Give one-word descriptions for the following individuals in this scene: Herod, Herodias, Herodias’s daughter, John the Baptist.
4. Where do you see duplicity in Herod? How does he typify many leaders in this world?

Read Mark 6:30

5. How does this sentence bring closure to the “sandwich?” What light does the flashback of John the Baptist shed on the mission of Jesus’ followers?

GETTING DEEPER

Read Mark 1:4

1. How did John’s early ministry in Mark 1 pave the way for his final ministry in Mark 6?
2. What makes a message of repentance dangerous?

GETTING PERSONAL

1. What similarities do you see between the kingdom of Herod and the present-day kingdoms of this world? What is appealing about Herod’s kingdom?
2. What is unappealing about the Kingdom of God when it provokes injustice and suffering?
3. If the Kingdom of God provokes injustice and suffering, what makes it worthwhile to pursue?
4. How can you prepare yourself for injustice and suffering that might come as a follower of Jesus?

PRAY...

that God will prepare for Himself followers who are faithful through persecution.